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NEWS RELEASE

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced today the sentencing of John Woodward Ickes, Jr., age 34, of Chesterfield County, Virginia. Senior United States District Judge Richard L. Williams sentenced Ickes to 168 months of incarceration for transporting child pornography across state lines. Ickes's federal sentence will run concurrent with a state sentence he is currently serving for aggravated sexual battery of two Chesterfield area children.

Ickes was convicted by Judge Williams following a bench trial during which the Court heard evidence that included testimony from U.S. Customs Inspectors in Detroit, Michigan, who came into contact with the defendant as he entered the United States from Canada. They became suspicious of the defendant when viewing a tape in the defendant's van, which ostensibly depicted a tennis match but repeatedly focused on a young ball boy at the match. A further inspection of the van, which was fully loaded with his personal belongings, revealed photo albums containing child pornography. Inspectors then discovered there were arrest warrants for Ickes from Chesterfield County, Virginia, where there were outstanding charges for aggravated sexual abuse of two young children. A further search of CD-ROMs contained in the defendant's van uncovered child pornography movies that Ickes had produced himself using the two Chesterfield County children.

Also announcing the sentence is Donald Thompson, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Field Division.

The case was investigated by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted for the United States by Assistant United States Attorney Brian R. Hood.

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